(c) The National Tourism Policy-2002 focuses on development of domestic tourism particularly tourism connected with pilgrimage. According to the Department of Tourism, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, it was decided in the conference to develop "inter and intra-tourism circuits" within the Sourthern States and to introduce Southern tourist train. These initiatives are expected to boost pilgrim tourism in the country.

(d) The Department of Tourism, Govt. of India has formulated following schemes in the Tenth Five Year Plan for the development of tourism infrastructure including tourist spots to attract both domestic and foreign tourists:

(i) Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits.

(ii) Products/Infrastructure and Destination Development.

(iii) Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects.

Central assistance for development of beaches

1503. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are extending financial assistance to develop the beaches in the States in order to attract tourists in a big way;

(b) if so, the details of beaches developed so far with the assistance from the Central Government;

(c) the assistance extended to Andhra Pradesh for the development of beaches; and

(d) the beaches proposed to be developed in the State in the next few years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Development of tourist places is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations. However, the Department of Tourism also sanctions projects at important tourist places in the

country including beach areas. Some of the major projects sanctioned for development of beaches during 10th Five Year Plan so far are as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
i.	Development of Tagore Beach (Karnataka)	197.49
ii.	Development of Om Beach (Karnataka)	100.00
iii.	Development of Puri as a destination (Orissa) (This includes development of beach also)	394.55
iv.	Development of Muttom and Thekkurichi Beaches (Tamil Nadu)	150.00

(c) No assistance has been provided to Andhra Pradesh for development of beaches during the 10th Plan so far.

(d) Projects are sanctioned on the basis of field visits/consultations with the State Governments. However, no list has been drawn up for the future as it is an ongoing process.

Tourist Traffic

1504. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what special efforts have been made by Government to attract tourist traffic in near future keeping in view that tourism is a big source of employment generation and foreign exchange earning;

(b) whether any directions and assistance have been given to State Governments to boost tourism in their respective States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Promotion of various tourism products of India is undertaken by the India Tourism Offices through advertising in the print and electronic media, participation in fairs and exhibitions, departmental stores